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TO MY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

My general supply of nursery stock to offer this coming spring is much less than usual. There was a big increase of demand a year ago which took about all of marketable size at that time. Men to do this kind of work have been hard to get and high priced; and the season was dry and not favorable for a rapid growth of nursery plants. The quality of what I have to offer is of the usual high standard and every part of it grew here on the place under my personal supervision and will bear fruit true to labels attached. I do not wish to fill any large orders. Am sold out in plums, and in currants, except that there is still a fair supply of Franco-German.

I've a good supply of apple trees from 6 to 10 feet tall for local planting—too large to ship; and a nice lot in the smaller sizes which can go by mail or express.

I've quit growing the Dunlap strawberry, but have plenty of plants of the Minnesota No. 3 which I consider the best in the spring bearers for dry sections; also have a nice lot in the two everbearers—Progressive and Superb.

I've a good supply of Minnesota No. 4 raspberry now, but in order to make them reach more folks, I do not wish to sell more than 100 plants to one party. The price is \$1.00 per 10; \$2.00 per 25; \$3.50 per 50; \$6.00 per 100. Also have the Sunbeam for those who would like to try it. I've grown many sorts of raspberries in the past 24 years but the Minnesota No. 4 seems much the best. It is hardy as any but will do much better if given some light cover for winter.

I make a list of numbers in each division of fruit plants on hand, and check off as orders come in so I can notify later customers what percentage of their wants can be filled. We do not try to keep hold of all the money we get here, and any balance due the customer is returned not later than time of shipping.

In the interest of fruit growing and better homes I am

Sincerely,

JOHN ROBERTSON.

January, 1920.

Hot Springs, S. D.

LIBRARY
RECEIVED

★ FEB 17 1920

U. S. Department of Agriculture

PRICE LIST OF
NURSERY STOCK
YEARS 1919-20



OPATA PLUM

Bush form of pruning is best

JOHN ROBERTSON'S NURSERY
HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
CERTIFICATE OF NURSERY INSPECTION
Office of State Entomologist, Brookings, S. D.

Brookings, S. D., Nov. 4, 1918.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the nursery stock growing in the John Robertson's Nursery, of John Robertson, proprietor, at Hot Springs, South Dakota, has been inspected by H. C. Severin, a duly appointed inspector of this office, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 260, Laws of 1917, State of South Dakota, and permission is hereby granted said nursery to sell and ship nursery stock which has been officially inspected and found apparently free from injurious insects, Arachnids, worms and dangerous plant diseases.

This certificate is valid until July 1st, 1919, unless revoked.

Resident Nursery Certificate No. 44.

Number of acres inspected 3.

H. C. SEVERIN,
State Entomologist.

(Seal)

STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

I planted my first fruit trees in the spring of 1896, and have continued planting until I now have 15 acres in bearing orchard. My main attention is given to the growing of fruit and trying out all new varieties of promise. No new or old sort is propagated in my nursery till it has proven itself to be of superior worth in the orchard. This work of experimenting has cost me a lot in both time and money; also taught me the value of hardiness, health, vigor and productiveness in fruit plants, together with color, size, and quality of fruit. I do not plan on developing an extensive nursery business but offer a limited quantity of the genuine home grown article to my neighbors and others who have confidence in me. My information on fruit growing, and descriptions of varieties here, is short, because I do not want to get out an expensive catalog; but those who are interested can find the best I have in the Horticultural Department of The Dakota Farmer.

All Stock is True to Name

I know from experience what it is to get a bill of trees labeled as you ordered, plant and care for them until they come into bearing, and then find you have crabs, seedlings, or worthless sorts, so I am most particular that everything is true to name. I never send to another nursery for stock I may be out of, because I could not be sure of its being true to name.

Varieties to Plant

In the family orchard one should plant a few of most of the sorts I list, but it is a mistake to plant many summer apples, or crabs, unless you are situated where you can sell the surplus fruit. Plant more of the late fall and winter sorts. Currants and gooseberries are the easiest fruits to grow, and should be more generally planted. They will be bearing while you are waiting for the apples.

Planting

Early spring is the time to plant in the dry northwest. Apple trees should be planted not less than thirty feet apart each way, so as to allow for spread of roots, in search of moisture, as the tree grows larger without competition with roots of other trees or plants. After a tree becomes established, its roots always extend as far in all directions as the tree is high, often reaching much farther. As a rule it is a good method to plow the orchard site quite deeply, leaving a deep furrow where each row of trees are to be. Dig wide and deep holes, especially if soil is hard. Use fine moist surface soil to fill around roots, setting tree about same depth it grew in nursery, but leaving a basin of some extent around tree to catch water from rains. This plan is especially good where there is a slope that allows water to run off. Do not allow basin to fill in by cultivation for a few years. When finally leveled up the tree is some deeper than it grew in nursery. All limbs of newly set trees should be cut back about two-thirds of last year's growth.

One row of small fruits may be planted between the tree rows and dug out in, say ten years, when the trees will be large so as to need all the moisture. Some little crop, like potatoes or corn may be grown in the orchard the first two or three years, but never plant anything close enough to trees to use the moisture they can reach with their roots. Never allow weeds to grow at any time; you need the moisture for the trees. These rules are mainly for growing fruits with the natural rainfall on dry subsoil land.

Order Early

Do not wait until it is time to plant before ordering. This is not because I am in a hurry to get your money, but because all orders are booked as received, and I run short in some plants towards the last. Then too, your order can be put up and sent, just a few days ahead of the rush. There are always plenty who wait till the last. The seasons vary, but as a rule trees and shrubbery set out during the latter part of April do better than those set after May 15th.

Parcel Post

Those living at a distance from the railroad can get very good service by Parcel Post. The limit of length and circumference of a package, combined, is now 84 inches. By cutting the tops back, as they should be after planting anyway, I can mail pretty fair sized stock. Those ordering this way should make allowances for postage.

Terms and Conditions

Five of one kind and ten of not over three varieties at ten rates. Fifty of not over five varieties, at one hundred rates. No orders booked or shipped until paid for in full. I do not substitute without permission, and all money will be returned for any part of order I cannot fill. I do not replace "free" nor at "half price," but if I have reason to think there has been any mistake or fault at this end of the line, I will make it good, either in the price paid or in other stock. Complaints should be made upon receipt of stock. I will be pleased to use my judgment as to varieties in filling an order for those who will allow me to do so.

Address all orders to

JOHN ROBERTSON

BOX 237.

HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA.

Prices of Apple Trees

Size	Each	Per 10	Per 100
3 to 4 feet	25 cents	\$2.25	\$20.00
4 to 5 feet	30 cents	2.75	25.00
5 to 6 feet	40 cents	3.50	30.00
6 to 7 feet	50 cents	4.50	35.00

Summer Varieties

YELLOW TRANSPARENT—The best early summer apple.

DUCHESS—Ripens about ten days after Yellow Transparent. A good hardy apple.

Fall Varieties

HIBERNAL—A large, coarse sour apple, very good for cooking. The hardiest of all apples, especially recommended for trying locations.

NAMELESS—A variety that did not prove true to what I ordered, and have not been able to learn correct name yet. A fine large yellow apple, in quality compares to Grimes Golden. Heavy bearer.

WEALTHY—While this is not a late keeper, yet it has more good qualities than any other one variety that can be grown in the northwest. More trees of Wealthy should be planted than of any other variety.

Winter Varieties

McINTOSH RED—An apple of very high quality, better keeper than Wealthy, but not quite as hardy in tree.

JEWELL'S WINTER—A very hardy, strong growing tree. Fruit of good size and quality. Withstands wind better than any sort I grow.

BEN DAVIS—Not altogether hardy, when young, but will stand more cold than Northwestern Greening. The best keeper, and bears young and regularly.

Pears

3 to 5 feet, 35 cents each. \$1.50 per 5

The Flemish Beauty is the best, and I only advise planting it in the vicinity of the Black Hills.

Crabs

WHITNEY—Almost an apple in size. The best all round one variety.

FLORENCE—Mainly used as a jelly crab. Bears earliest of all, and every year.

Cherries

2 to 3 feet, 30 cents each	\$2.50 per 10
3 to 5 feet, 40 cents each.	\$3.50 per 10

I have one red and one black sort that I have grown for a number of years. I have no names for them. They seem to be healthier and longer lived than any named sorts I have tried.

Plums

2 to 3 feet, 40 cents each.	\$3.50 per 10
3 to 4 feet, 50 cents each.	\$4.50 per 10
4 to 6 feet, 60 cents each.	\$5.50 per 10

The varieties of plums I offer are mainly of Prof. Hansen's new sorts from Brookings. The Hanska, Opata, Sapa and Waneta. The Hanska has good keeping and shipping qualities, and has the Apricot flavor when cooked, blooms very early, and is sometimes caught with frost. The Sapa is a fine plum for home use, but not quite so hardy as Opata, which I consider the surest regular bearer of the lot. The Waneta is the largest, but is not out long enough to be well proven as to hardiness. Also have a few of the Champa sand cherry. Good fruit and very hardy. 3 feet size 40 cents each.

Gooseberries

1 year old, 15 cents each.	\$1.00 per 10.	\$4.00 per 50
2 year old, 25 cents each.	\$2.00 per 10.	\$6.00 per 50

The Downing is a fine large green berry. The Josselyn is a large berry, red when ripe. The Carrie is of medium size, red when ripe, is the strongest growing and heaviest bearer. The kind to plant most of. Have a good supply of these except Josselyn which I can only furnish at single and ten rates.

Currants

1 year old, 15 cents each.	\$1.00 per 10.	\$4.00 per 50
2 year old, 25 cents each.	\$2.00 per 10.	\$8.00 per 50

The Wilder, Diploma, and Perfection are red sorts of the largest size. Diploma is a trifle the largest also strongest grower, while Perfection is sweetest. The Franco German is a later sort not quite so large in fruit, but the bush is the strongest, healthiest grower I know of in the currant class.

Red Raspberries

SUNBEAM--A very hardy sort of good quality.

Price, 60 cents per 10. \$3.50 per 100.

✓ MINNESOTA NO. 4—I consider this the most promising hardy raspberry of the many kinds I've tried, but have only a few plants to spare this season.

Price, 15 cents each. \$1.00 per 10

Strawberries

I have several spring bearing sorts doing fairly well but the Minnesota No. 3 is a leader in hardiness, vigor, and fruit, with Dunlap second best.

Price, 40 cents per 25. \$1.25 per 100

In everbearers I grow mostly of the Superb as I think it a little the best in size and quality, but have a few plants of Progressive and Minnesota No. 1017. The everbearers are a sure thing, getting ahead of the late spring frosts, also producing a fall crop the same year they are planted.

Price, 75 cents per 25. \$3.00 per 100

Asparagus

One of the first things to come in spring and easiest to grow.

Price, 2 year old plants, 50 cents per 25. \$1.50 per 100

Purple and White Lilacs

25 cents each. \$2.00 per 10

As a final word I will say that I do not claim to list all the varieties nor all of the different fruits that may be grown in the northwest, but what I do offer are a success.

Don't plant these small fruits over against the fence, or next the prairie border, nor in reach of the tree roots from a grove. Give each plant ample space. Better set too few plants on the ground, and have plenty of moisture, than to set too thickly and make a failure. And don't forget about the weeds.

I am not merely growing nursery stock to sell; I wish it to bear fruit.

Yours for success,

JOHN ROBERTSON

BOX 237

HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

REMARKS

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A View of a Portion of the John Robertson Nursery Near Hot Springs, South Dakota